<u>REMARKS</u>

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Advisory Action alleges that Applicant has argued that the location of an aperture stop in Williamson's system would not have been obvious. However, what Applicants actually argued (with respect to Claim 85) is that Williamson <u>excludes</u> disposing an aperture stop (diaphragm) on an image side of a most image-wise curved mirror, because there are only two positions in Williamson that are suitable for an aperture stop, and neither of those positions is on an image side of a most image-wise curved mirror.

To reiterate, an aperture stop can <u>only</u> be disposed in the neighborhood of a position in which the principal light ray and the optical axis cross one another. There are only two such positions in Williamson. One of those positions is on the optical path in the neighborhood a mirror $M_2''$, and the other is a position on the optical path in between the mirrors $M_5''$ and $M_6''$. Neither position meets the requirements of Claim 85.

More particularly, the mirror $M_5''$, is the most image-wise curved mirror in Williamson. The image side of that mirror faces the wafer 22. An aperture stop cannot be placed there, because a principal light ray and the optical axis do not cross one another there.

Accordingly, claim 85 and the claims dependent thereon are clearly allowable over the proposed combination of
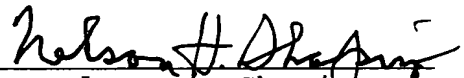
Williamson and Takahashi et al.  New dependent Claims 100 and 101 further distinguish from these references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account.  If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:dmt

By: Nelson H. Shapiro
Reg. No. 17,095

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia   22102
(703) 903-9000

September 6, 2005